

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-15. (Canceled).

16. (New) A method for the treatment or prevention of inflammation and/or wound healing in aquatic animals, comprising administering to said aquatic animals a preparation comprising 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans.

17. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least some of the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans are water soluble.

18. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein at least some of the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans are not water soluble.

19. (New) A method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans which are not water soluble are in microparticulate form.

20. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation further comprises vitamins, minerals, carotenoids, amino acids, lipids, peptides, nucleotides, bioflavonoids, oils, yeasts, algae and/or polysaccharides.

21. (New) A method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the preparation further comprises vitamin C.

22. (New) A method as claimed in claim 21 wherein the vitamin C is ascorbyl polyphosphate.

23. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation further comprises an additive having bacteriostatic or bacteriocidal activity.

24. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is by injection.

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25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is by bath or water immersion treatment.

26. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is oral administration.

27. (New) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the preparation is in the form of a powder, gel, liquid, tablet or capsule.

28. (New) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the preparation is added to animal feed.

29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein said administration is topical administration.

30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the preparation is substantially soluble in water.

31. (New) A for the treatment of inflammation and/or wound healing in aquatic animals, comprising administering to said aquatic animals a preparation comprising 1,3 and/or 1,6 beta glucans.